

Serial No. 09/626,900

PD990040

Remarks

In view of the above amendments, the applicants submit that all of the claims now pending are in allowable form.

OBJECTIONS

A. Claims

The Examiner objects to claims 2-6, 8-14 and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-6, 8-14 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitation of claim 2 and have amended claim 15 to depend from claim 16. Applicants have cancelled claim 7. In view of these amendments to the claims, the basis for the Examiners' objection thereto has been removed. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the applicants believe that all of the claims now pending in the application are in allowable form and this application is presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

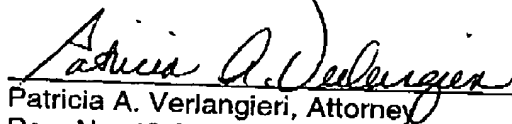
If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring a continuation of this adverse final action in any of the claims now

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pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Ms. Patricia A. Verlangieri, at (609) 734-6867, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,


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March 27, 2006